No Objection to Declassification in Full 2010/06/11 : LOC-HAK-158-6-1-9

FBIS 127 *****

SAUDIS AGREEMENT WILL NOT BE SIGNED WITHOUT DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS

IAS1240 JERUSALEM DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN HEBREW 1751 GMT 25 JUL 75 IA

(TEXT) AND NOW, AN ISRAELI REACTION TO AS-SADAT'S SPEECH YESTERDAY. PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN IS NOW ADDRESSING A CONFERENCE OF MIZRAHI WOMEN FROM THE UNITED STATES. THE FOLLOWING IS A PORTION OF HIS SPEECH.

(RABIN--LIVE OR VIDEOTAPED) YESTERDAY I HEARD THE PRESIDENT OF EGYPT'S WORDS WITH SORROW AND CARE. I HEARD WITH SORROW AND CONCERN THAT HE DEMONSTRATED IGNORANCE OF THE JEWISH NATION'S STRONG ADHERENCE TO THE LAND OF ISRAEL, IGNORANCE OF THE LONG HISTORY OF THE JEWISH NATION, WHOSE ROOTS ARE HERE; WHOSE MOST GLORIOUS CREATION, THE BIBLE, WAS CONCEIVED HERE; AND WHO DURING THOUSANDS OF YEARS HAS STRIVED, ASPIRED AND DREAMED OF RETURNING AND CREATING ITS STATE HERE, IN THE ONLY COUNTRY IN WHICH ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE CAN BE REESTABLISHED. IF HE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THIS, HE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE SOURCE OF JEWISH UNIQUENESS AND OF JEWISH EXISTENCE OR THE TRUE NATURE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL. THERE IS NO ONE LIKE THE NATION OF ISRAEL OR THE STATE OF ISRAEL, WHICH TRULY DESIRES PEACE BUT WHICH DESIRES A REAL PEACE, A PEACE IN WHICH OUR NEIGHBORS WOULD RECONCILE THEMSELVES WITH A STATE OF ISRAEL AS A STRONG SOVEREIGN JEWISH STATE LIVING BY ITS OWN RIGHT AND ITS OWN STRENGTH.

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT SET A WORRISOME QUESTION MARK OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF ADVANCING TOWARD AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT WHEN HE DESCRIBED ISRAEL AS A DAGGER IN THE BODIES OF EGYPT AND THE ARAB WORLD. ANYONE WHO SEES ISRAEL THIS WAY RAISES DOUBTS ABOUT WHETHER HIS INTENTIONS ARE INDEED DIRECTED TOWARD PEACE. ISRAEL SAW AND CONTINUES TO SEE THE SENSE OF PROGRESSING TOWARD PEACE THROUGH AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT WITH EGYPT AS A MEANINGFUL, TANGIBLE STEP TOWARD PEACE. IN THE ABSENCE OF A WILLINGNESS TO REGARD THE INTERIM SETTLEMENT AS PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE, ITS VALUE IS TO BE DOUBTED. IF AS-SADAT'S WORDS WERE INTENDED AS LIPSERVICE TO THE EXTREMISTS IN THE ARAB WORLD, TO THE EXTREMISTS IN HIS COUNTRY, THEN THIS TOO HAS NO JUSTIFICATION WHATEVER, BECAUSE A NATIONAL LEADER WHO DECIDES TO MAKE THE FIRST STEP TOWARD PEACE HAS THE DUTY TO PREPARE HIS NATION, TO PREPARE THE ARAB WORLD FOR TAKING THE ROAD TOWARD PEACE WITH ISRAEL.

THERE IS SENSE IN AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT IF IT IS A STEP TOWARD PEACE; IF AT ITS MATERIALIZATION AND IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE IT THE NATIONS ARE BEING PREPARED FOR PEACE. I BELIEVE AND HOPE--I WOULD LIKE TO BELIEVE--THAT THE CONTINUATION OF THE EFFORTS IN WHICH ISRAEL SHARED, TO ADVANCE TOWARD PEACE THROUGH AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT WITH EGYPT WILL INDEED BEAR FRUIT. HOWEVER, THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT AND ALL OF EGYPT MUST KNOW THAT ISRAEL IS READY FOR THIS STEP ONLY IF IT CONSTITUTES PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE, A COMMITMENT TO AVOID THE USE OF FORCE AS A WAY TO SOLVE THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND A DECLARATION THAT IN THE FUTURE ONLY NEGOTIATIONS, ONLY PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS, WILL BE THE BASIS FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. (APPLAUSE)

ISRAEL AGREED TO NEGOTIATE WITH EGYPT OVER AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT THROUGH THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE UNITED STATES, BUT IN ANY CASE, THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL NOT BE CONCLUDED AND AN AGREEMENT WILL NOT BE SIGNED WITHOUT A FACE-TO-FACE PARLEY BETWEEN EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI DELEGATIONS, SINCE WITHOUT DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS (ADDRESS IS INTERRUPTED BY APPLAUSE--FBIS), AND BE IT ONLY AT THE FINAL STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS, THERE CAN BE NO EXPRESSION TO THE CONTENT AND THE PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT.

ISRAEL DOES NOT ASPIRE TO PERPETUATE THE EXISTING SITUATION. ISRAEL DESIRES PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE, BUT IF EGYPT REFUSED TO CONDUCT THE NEGOTIAATIONS FROM THEIR OUTSET IN A DIRECT MANNER AND PREFERRED TO DO IT BY WAY OF NEGOTIATIONS THROUGH THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE UNITED STATES, EGYPT MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THE PROCESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS--ALSO AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THIS--IS TAKING A LONG TIME. ISRAEL HAS NO INTEREST IN PROCRASTINATION; ISRAEL DESIRES TO ADVANCE PEACE BY SEEKING A SOLID BASIS FOR PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE, EVEN IF ONLY BY WAY OF AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT WITH EGYPT. (END OF TELEVISED PASSAGE)

25 JUL 0054Z AAM/KK *****

No Objection to Declassification in Full 2010/06/11 : LOC-HAK-158-6-1-9